



ITEM 6

**Science Priorities for
Upcoming Research
Grants**

Science Priorities and Process 2006 Focused PSP & Science Fellows

- Tools designed to fill high priority knowledge gaps
- Streamlined and focused to better respond to management needs
- Competitive and scientifically credible process
- PSP: \$6 million, 3-5 tightly focused research topics
- Science Fellows: \$1.5 million, 6-8 Fellows, same research topics plus agency scientist projects
- Will use recent public efforts to help identify research priorities

Priorities identified through recent public efforts:

- POD review panel
- OCAP review panel
- EWA workshop
- ERP Mercury workshop
- Delta Science Panel
- DRMS

Draft Schedule

- Determine topics (March – May)
 - Solicit input
 - Refine research questions
 - Selection Panel chooses 3-5 topics
- CBDA approves topics (June)
- Open Solicitation (July – Aug)
- Review (PSP: September-November;
Fellows: September-October)
- Fund (PSP: December – ; Fellows: November)